

## NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

For Immediate Release:

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## Reisterstown Man Pleads Guilty to \$19,000 Theft of Athletic Shoes

A Reisterstown man, formerly employed by a trucking company in Elkridge, has pleaded guilty to the theft of a pallet of athletic shoes worth over \$19,000. Cortney Lynn Slater, 29, pleaded guilty to one count of theft between \$10,000-\$100,000 in Howard County Circuit Court this morning.

On July 21, 2016, an employee of New Penn Motor Express unpacked a trailer of five pallets of New Balance athletic shoes. When he began to load the shipment onto another trailer, he discovered that one of the pallets was missing. He reported the shortage to the terminal's shipping clerk, adding that he had seen Slater near the shipment that morning, before Slater departed in a truck. Dispatch then contacted Slater and ordered him to return to the terminal.

Assistant State's Attorney Tricia Cecil told the court that a security manager managed located Slater's rig and tailed him to a nearby mall parking lot where Slater off-loaded the missing pallet behind a dumpster before returning to the terminal. When subsequently questioned at the terminal, Slater indicated that a co-worker asked him to take the pallet of athletic shoes and that Slater would be paid \$250.00 for the theft.

Judge William V. Tucker set a sentencing date of May 15, 2017. Slater remains free on bond.